

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	30 April 2001
Name of applicant/court:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	The Blue Room
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Stated
Producer:	Not Stated
Publisher:	Court Theatre
Author:	Not Stated
Format:	Advertising Brochure
Country of Origin:	New Zealand
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Unrestricted.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The advertising brochure entitled *The Blue Room* is classified as:
Unrestricted.

The advertising brochure deals with matters of sex. Its purpose is to publicise a theatrical work. Its content includes a synopsis of the controversial nature of the original work and its film sequel, which were subject to censorship, and the fact that the original playwright was prosecuted for obscenity. The prominent feature of the publication is a softly-lit, restrained presentation of a nude couple embracing, which includes buttock and partial breast nudity. The text describing the associated play refers to casual sexual encounters between five men and five women in a restrained, indirect, metaphorical manner. While the brochure deals with adult physical intimacy, neither the visual images nor the text are particularly revealing or overtly sexual. The fact that some individuals may find the content of the brochure offensive is not considered to be sufficient reason to restrict its availability in contemporary New Zealand.

The classification places no limitation on the freedom of speech as set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

OFLC Ref: 100342